

Professional Keystone Media Awards - Specialty Category Winners
John V.R. Bull Freedom of Information Award

Year	Organization	Credits	Entry Title
2026	Spotlight PA	Wyatt Massey	Penn State Transparency: Penn State trustees agree to legal training, improved transparency in settlement with Spotlight PA; After years of secrecy, Penn State board discloses details of closed-door meetings; Penn State trustees undergo transparency training as part of settlement with Spotlight PA; Penn State loses fight to keep internal trustee documents hidden as Commonwealth Court sides with Spotlight PA; Penn State asks Pa. Supreme Court to stop the release of internal trustee documents; Penn State trustees lost access to board's file-sharing service after Spotlight PA records request
2025	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Juliette Rihl & Joshua Vaughn	Investigation of Dauphin County's Jeff Haste
2024	Spotlight PA	Angela Couloumbis & Min Xian	Richest Little City
2023	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette News Team	Bridges on the Brink
2022	The Philadelphia Inquirer/Spotlight PA	Joseph DiStefano, Craig McCoy, Angela Couloumbis & Karl Stark	How Pennsylvania's biggest pension fund rewarded pols, squandered billions and triggered an FBI investigation
2021	The Citizens' Voice, Wilkes-Barre	Eric Mark, James Halpin and Dave Janoski	The Death of Shaheen Mackey
2020	Spotlight PA & The Caucus	Angela Couloumbis (Spotlight PA) & <i>The Caucus</i> Staff	The new dark money: How we tracked down \$3.5 million in hidden campaign spending
2019	The Times-Tribune, Scranton	Staff	Upholding the Freedom of Information: Old Forge School District principal's settlement; Scranton School District violating the Sunshine Act; Scranton Fire Chief's son/Lackawanna County government, etc.
2018	Reading Eagle Company	Staff	Upholding Freedom of Information: Nursing homes' failure to report; Uncovering a halfway house horror; Eagle shreds veil of secrecy in drug fight; Public documents include blocked passages
2017	PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg	Staff	Championing Freedom of Information
2016	Beaver County Times	Staff	Freedom of Information efforts
2015	Reading Eagle Company	Staff	Lawyers win...; Judge blames...; Eagle battled...; Council members...; Your tax dollars...; Reading must stop...; City legal fees...; City taxpayers...; He wants...; Lawmaker mulls...; Measure would...; Meeting on water...; Open government...

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2014	York Daily Record/Sunday News	Staff	Public-records quest: Question of church and family, Long road awaits dentist, Report of ex-chief online, Swaps come with risks, Drugmakers paid \$2B to docs, Check discipline listing, Wolf's contributions, Man seeks help, 911 log
2013	York Daily Record/Sunday News	Staff	Risky business; Stats on bullying; Anit-Muslim cases; More eyeing appeal; Cost of money; Nursing home; County use McClure Co.; Red Lion suffers; How to contact; Penn State; Council pick; Sessions public; York City Council; Stations post data; Letters ask
2012	York Daily Record/Sunday News	Staff	Right to know; Bill limits; EMS crews; Don't appeal; Keep 911; Hook EMS; Court ruling; Records; OT; Craver; Staff; Jury; Map quest; Jury rigged; Colleges; Autopsy; Principal; Senator; Dentist; Loophole; Office
2011	Philadelphia Daily News	Staff	Access to police grievance-arbitration decisions
2010	The Morning Call	Tim Darragh & Steve Esack	Risky Business
2009	The Legal Intelligencer	Staff	Coverage of the Practice of the Federal 3rd Circuit Court Of Appeals
2008	York Daily Record	Staff	Stories of soldiers' lives and their deaths
2007	The Philadelphia Inquirer	Melanie Burney, Frank Kummer and Dwight Ott	Camden Test Scores Scandal
2006	The Morning Call	Tim Darragh and Christopher Schnaars	Recipe for Trouble
2005	York Daily Record	Staff	
2004	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Barbara White Stock	Crusading for open hearings regarding abused & neglected children
2003	York Daily Record/Sunday News	Dennis Hetzel	
2002	York Daily Record/Sunday News	Staff	Legacy of racial incidents